HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE COUNTIES TO PROVIDE REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABLED PERSONS TO ACCESS BEACHES.

WHEREAS, Hawaii is known worldwide for its beaches and is committed to offering beach access to all visitors; and

WHEREAS, beach access for the disabled, including veterans, is extremely limited, especially for those who are wheelchairbound; and

WHEREAS, Title 28 Code of Federal Regulations Part 35 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public entities; and

WHEREAS, Title 28 Code of Federal Regulations Part 36 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public accommodations and requires places of public accommodation to be designed, constructed, and altered to make them compliant; and

WHEREAS, access to Hawaii's beaches is meant to be open for all residents and visitors and accommodations to beaches will need to be improved so as not to discriminate against persons with a disability; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the counties that maintain beach transit corridors are requested to provide reasonable accommodations for access to the shoreline for persons with a disability at any beach that has a public restroom facility and is within an ocean recreation management area; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in providing accommodations for access to the shoreline at beaches, the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the responsible counties consider the topography and physical characteristics of the beach transit corridor; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the responsible counties shall provide these accommodations no later than July 1, 2016; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Resources and the mayors of Hawaii County, Maui County, Kauai County, and the City and County of Honolulu.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 3 2015